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The State of Aruba's Government as reported by Dutch Minister Donner



ORANJESTAD -- Last Monday morning during a press conference with Dutch Minister Piet Hein Donner and the Prime Minister of Aruba, the results of an investigation conducted by WODC (Scientific Investigations and Documentation Center) was presented.

Said results, compiled in a formal investigative report titled, "The State of Aruba's Government," was presented to the President of Parliament and the First and Second Chambers of the Dutch Parliament.

The report confirms Aruba's structural vulnerability

such as was noted in the previous administration.

The WODC also noted the government's intention to solve the problems in a structural manner as stipulated in the note related to "Bestuurlijke Vernieuwing," (government reform). Holland will continue to support Aruba in the future with respect to Aruba's quest for a high quality of governance and the application of law.

Back in November 2009, the Prime Minister and then Dutch Secretary of State Ank Bijleveld agreed that there

should be an investigation regarding Aruba's governance. The investigation covers an analysis of various reports, research on different applications of law in over 20 small and large cases on different fronts of management, and numerous conversations with key informants.

WODC concluded that Aruba has a problem due to its small size. According to WODC this is because there is the lack of quality and capability, the short distance between government and the community, the polarization of politics. These all have an influence on good governance and on the quality of government.

According to them, there is a structural vulnerability in government and in the application of law.

This is due to a combination of preferential treatment and the incorrect use of the necessary space for government officials to do evaluation. While Parliament, on the other hand, as well as other institutions that must guarantee good governance is not providing sufficient opposition.

WODC arrived at their conclusions in view of the following three categories of the power of intervention of the government of Aruba: public tender, prolongation of permits and the management of government personnel. WODC encountered several breaches of law in these three categories and consequent pressures that these breaches of law incurred.

They further explained that a. the criteria for deviating from the rules of public tender were not upheld and that there were no rules with respect to under handed public tenders, b. missing clauses in the procedure for sending people back to their place of origin. There was no strict and fixed ruling for issuing permits. This created long lines of people waiting for years resulting in many painful cases, which justified deviation from the few rules in place, the mixture of functions.

Government of Aruba delighted that deaf children will hear again!



The Aruba White Yellow Cross does an excellent job in detecting hearing deficiencies in young children during the very first weeks of their lives. Fortunately, only a small percentage of children born in Aruba are born either deaf or hearing impaired. Previously, these children were destined to grow up and live with the handicap of hearing impairment with all the consequences that such a handicap brings with it.

The Quota Service Club of Aruba has for years been doing much to make us conscious of the importance of taking care of our hearing. During the Carnival period they present information flyers, do lectures about hearing care and protection and they also distribute air plugs to protect those directly involved in the loud music during the parades.

Both Quota Club and FEPO have been extremely concerned about the few deaf children who could not be operated on to receive a cochlear implant. FEPO is the foundation that is involved in audiometrics and the measurement of hearing aids. Cochlear Implants have been proven to allow deaf children to hear again like all other children. The reason for not doing this operation here

was purely financial.

Nose, Ear and Throat specialist, Dr. Cabenda propositioned the government about this matter. Together with the Prime Minister they were able to convince the AZV (General Sickness Insurance organization) to cover the huge expense of this type of operation.

Last week three children, the youngest being three years of age, were operated and received the Cochlear Implant. The Prime Minister took the time to visit these children recovering in the hospital.

The parents of these children were understandably elated that their children would be able to hear after the long wait and consistent pleading for such an operation. They were simply overjoyed by the smiles on the face of their children who would finally be able to lead normal lives again.

They are grateful to Dr. Cabenda who, according to them, "walked the extra mile" to make this operation happen together with his foreign colleague Prof. Dr. Stokroos.

The operations were all successful and marks a new milestone in Aruba's health care services.

Deborah Helder sweeps the Crescendo Piano Competition for Youth 2011



Photo above shows the winners of the competition: third place Willem ten Ham, first place Deborah Helder and second place Emile Ponson. (see story on page 9)

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Obama hails 'unshakeable' US-Israel ties

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama praised the "unshakeable" bonds between Israel and the United States Tuesday in remarks marking the start of the Jewish high holy days.

Obama paid homage to US-Israeli ties in a videotaped statement honoring the sacred Jewish holidays -- book-ended by the start of the Jewish new year Rosh Hashanah on Wednesday and the day of atonement, Yom Kippur, next week. The major Jewish holidays afford "an opportunity to reaffirm our friendships, renew our commitments, and

reflect on the values we cherish," said Obama.

"My administration is doing everything we can to promote prosperity here at home and security and peace throughout the world -- and that includes reaffirming our commitment to the State of Israel," the US leader said.

"While we cannot know all that the New Year will bring, we do know this: the United States will continue to stand with Israel, because the bond between our two nations is unshakeable," he added.

Obama noted, however, that "the last year was also one

of hardship for people around the world," including for the people of Israel, who, he said, "face the uncertainties of an unpredictable age."

He made his remarks with relations between the two allies strained over his call last year for a Palestinian state and Israel's refusal to extend a moratorium on construction of settlement housing in the West Bank.

The State Department on Tuesday said the United States was "deeply disappointed" that Israel had approved construction of 1,100 homes in a Jewish settlement in East



MANILA- A woman carries her pet cats as she wades through a flooded street during typhoon Nesat in San Mateo, Rizal, east of Manila. Typhoon Nesat brought the Philippine capital to a near standstill, with its vast rain band also flooding remote farms and vicious winds tearing roofs off buildings in coastal towns.

AFP PHOTO

Britain urges Israel to revoke settlement plan

LONDON (AFP) - Britain on Tuesday attacked Israel's announcement that it was to build homes for 1,100 settlers in east Jerusalem and urged the government to rethink its decision.

Israel earlier said it would build the homes in the east Jerusalem settlement of Gilo, a move Palestinians slammed as a rejection of a proposal by the so called Quartet -- the European Union, Russia, the United Nations and United States -- for new peace talks.

Hague called on Israel to revoke the decision, adding now was a time "when all parties should be striving to return to talks and responding to the Quartet statement call to refrain from provocative actions".

The foreign minister said settlement expansion was illegal, corroded trust and "undermined the basic principle of land for peace".

The project's passage on Tuesday is the next step in a lengthy approvals process for the planned expansion of the Gilo neighborhood.

"With this, Israel is responding to the Quartet's statement with 1,100 'Nos'," Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat told AFP.

The Quartet proposed a resumption of talks after the Palestinian formally requested admission to the United Nations as a full member state, a step intensely opposed by Israel and its closest ally, the United States.

Long sentences asked for Dutch Tamil Tiger fundraisers

THE HAGUE, (AFP) - Dutch prosecutors Tuesday asked for jail sentences between 10 to 16 years against five suspected Tamil Tigers for aiding the Sri Lankan rebel movement from the Netherlands, including collecting funds.

"We are asking for long sentences. The suspects were consciously involved in an international terrorist organisation," prosecutor Ward Ferdinussen said in the indictment.

The prosecution asked for three sentences spanning a decade each, a 12-year sentence and a 16-year sentence, with Ferdinussen saying "if we are demanding heavy penalties... it's for the future, so it won't happen again."

The five defendants are accused of having collected money and information for the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), known as the Tamil Tigers, listed since 2006 by the European Union as a terrorist organisation.

The men are charged with organising illegal lotteries,

asking for subsidies for "humanitarian purposes" from Dutch municipalities and threatening the Sri Lankan community in the Netherlands.

Prosecutors said by extension, the men were responsible for the LTTE's actions like the recruitment of child soldiers and murder.

Arrested in April and June last year as part of a probe in the Netherlands into the activities of the banned LTTE, the five have lived in the country for "a long time and have Dutch nationality", national prosecution spokesman Wim de Bruin told AFP.

But defence lawyer Victor Kopp called the prosecution's demand disproportionate to the facts, saying he was very shocked.

Judgement is expected in the second half of October.

The LTTE battled for decades for a homeland for the ethnic Tamil minority, in an armed struggle that killed some 100,000 people, according to UN estimates.

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Rosalinda Maduro
Chandette Richardson
Editors

Marline v.d. Linden
Asst. to the editors

Rosalie Klein
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Paula Iglesias
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Six Questions to Guide you Through the Day

My job as a psychologist, among others, is to help people find answers to the perplexities they experience in their lives, to help people to become liberated from hang ups, burdens, depression, and other mental and emotional experiences, which may be hindering their effectiveness. I have observed that many of our problems can be avoided if we knew how to make better choices in life, and if we knew how to focus properly. While many personal problems may have far reaching roots and may take time to be resolved, if we could learn to ask some key questions every day, we may be able to live with far less stress and frustration... and be happier and more effective people.

Throughout the day it is a good idea to take a step back, as it were, and examine not just what you're doing at the moment, but how you're going about your business routine down the road. In other words, examine the road you're traveling, but also how you're going about the journey. You might discover that you're just going through the motions and not doing the very best you can,

nor being your very best!

Let me suggest six key questions we should be asking ourselves as we begin each day. These six questions may help you to begin your day with more focus and far less stress. These questions will help you live your life to the fullest and give you a brand new perspective:

1. Am I totally committed to everything I'm doing?

If you work for somebody, your employer should see your commitment to your job. If you're not committed to your job and to what you do at work, you will not be happy and you could never be 100% effective nor productive. Total commitment is necessary for job fulfillment and personal satisfaction. This applies to everything else you're doing. It applies to those who do volunteer work as well. Commitment is key to satisfaction and being effective.

2. Am I enthusiastic and excited about life?

If you begin your day droopy and down, that is most probably how it will

continue and end. Your effectiveness will be zilch. People who are sad and somber often contaminate others around them. They create an unhealthy sphere in the work place. Decide to be enthusiastic and excited despite whatever your circumstances may be. Thank God that you're alive and can do things others can not do. Be happy for being you and for the opportunities you have.

3. Am I totally honest?

If you're not honest to yourself and to others, you will experience a great deal of unnecessary stress and frustration. Honesty can sometimes be painful, but it is still the best policy. You experience a unique kind of freedom and liberation from being honest. Honesty makes your work much more pleasant and enjoyable.

4. Can I love unconditionally?

There are many people in your life who you need to love unconditionally. Your parents, no matter how difficult and demanding they may be, your spouse, no matter how he/she treats you, your child(ren)

with all their flaws and idiosyncrasies. Unconditional love is not easy to practice, but it is the only kind of love worth giving. If you want true personal freedom and success, love unconditionally. When we love unconditionally, those we love this way almost always responds positively and brings joy and gladness into our lives... especially our children!

5. Am I forgiving of others?

Most of us have trouble, big time, forgiving others who hurt or offend us! But it is the wise person who decides, come what may, I will forgive him/her. Forgiveness is the key to true freedom. When we refuse to forgive, we suffer a whole lot more than the person we don't want to forgive. Decide to stop the suffering and just let it go.... Forgive! I know, the hurt was big and ugly and it is the other person who wronged you and who should ask your forgiveness. But, because you are the wiser one, and because you know the intrinsic value of forgiveness and the emotional benefits for you... You forgive!

6. Should I include spirituality in my day-to-day undertakings?

You know, we are three-part beings: mind, body and spirit. If we give attention only to the mind and body and neglect the spirit we will not be doing justice to our being. Medical doctors and specialists have found that people who give attention to their spirit being are better able to handle stress and life's difficulties than those who ignore that aspect of their lives. What's more, they have discovered that people who include God in their lives experience far less stress and have much healthier lives overall. God should have a prominent place in our doings and thoughts. It is not stupid to ask God to guide us and to protect us everyday. It is foolish not to do so!

This list of six, obviously, can be expanded to include several more questions. But I am limiting myself to these six. I consider these cardinal and necessary for a healthy lifestyle and productive experience everyday. If this was helpful, please let me know: tonygreen.morningnews@hotmail.com.



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Jennifer and William promised their eternal love to each other on beautiful Aruba



Jennifer McGrath and William Kutzler have known each other since Jr. High. They started dating "offi-

cially" during their freshman year in college. Their love blossomed to the point where it was time to take the next

big step, and William proposed to Jennifer during an outing at the Long Island Montauk Lighthouse. As Jennifer has been traveling to Aruba with her family since she was born, it was obvious to her that Aruba would be the best place to have her destination wedding.

Will agreed immediately as he has been coming to Aruba for 3 years and just as Jennifer and the rest of the family, he

also fell in love with the island from the moment he first set foot here.

They promised their eternal love to each other on the beach at sunset on September 22, 2011, after which they enjoyed a delicious dinner, and then danced the night away together with their 30 guests, who traveled to Aruba from different parts of the USA. Congratulations Will and



Jenn!

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Holistic Wellness programs to be offered at Camacuri Residence

On the outskirts of Oranjestad not far from the Cas di Cultura, is this surprising little apartment/hotel/condo complex called Camacuri Residence. Popular with European visitors, there are a number that take up residence on Aruba during the winter months in this friendly compound away from the usual tourist scene.

Friends of Camacuri have banded together to begin a program a small oasis of nature that exists in the tranquil environs of the residence; they will begin with regularly scheduled holistic massage sessions coupled with yogi and methods of removing stress when their preparations are completed, in about a month.

Until that time, they are conducting introductory sessions beginning this Saturday at Surfside Beach. The yoga sessions are conducted by Ellen Buermans of Prana Center in Oranjestad. She is also training the therapists, who have been certified by Beauty with Style, in the art of holistic massage. Camacuri Manager Francis Bulters, "but if you share the pain, you halve the pain, as the saying goes." Organizers are of the opinion that



Ellen Buermans, Francis Bulters and Ingrid Werleman

the sessions in group will also assist in relieving stress, which will include meditation and holistic refreshments to cleanse the body and the mind.

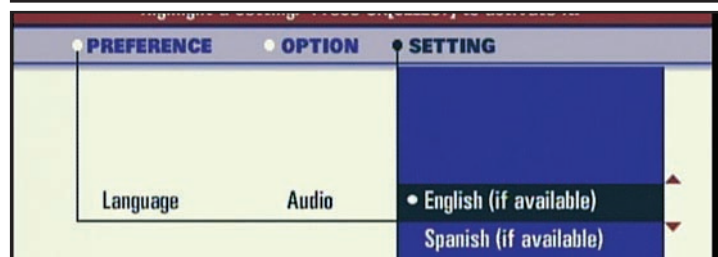
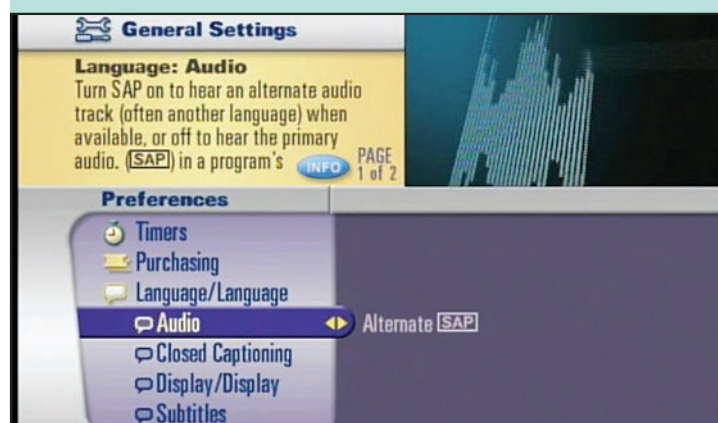
The first program, coming up this Saturday, October 1, goes from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. It will include volcanic rock treatment, natural body scrubs with sand and refreshments. Places can be reserved by calling 741-3300 or 734-1994. For more information visit either www.comprondindobida.com or www.camacuri.com

A second session will be an art class deploying natural mediums and techniques developed by Ellen of Prana, which encourage clients to connect and share the synergy

of the universe and channel to their creative inspiration. Artful expression is recognized by many psychological disciplines as an excellent form of externalizing stress and negative emotions; the Camacuri Wellness Program can offer a unique and interesting way to get in touch with your inner self and expiate emotions that are holding you back from being your best. "Physical and psychological well being are inextricably combined," commented Ingrid Werleman, "We have to work on the healthy maintenance of both aspects to enjoy and get the most out of life; in as natural way as possible would be best"

by Rosalie Klein

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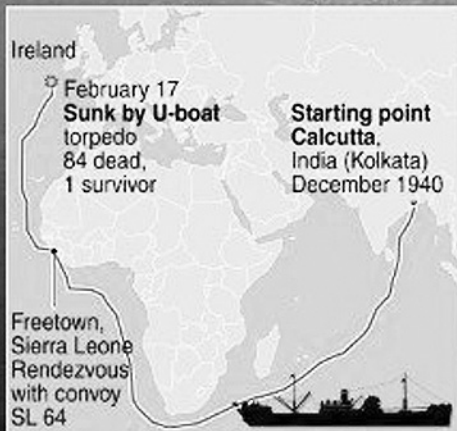
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SCI-TECH

Treasure hunters eye huge silver haul from WWII ship

The last voyage of the SS Gairsoppa



British steamship carrying a cargo of silver worth \$210 million was sunk by a German U-boat on February 17, 1941

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 Tea 1,765 tons
 Silver 219 tons
 (worth 600,000 pounds in 1941)

Salvage deal
☒ Private treasure hunter Odyssey Marine Exploration takes 80% of haul in return for search, recovery, cargo, documentation and marketing
☒ British government retains 20% for the contract

Ladder leading to forecabin deck of the SS Gairsoppa, image courtesy of OME

MIAMI (AFP) - When the SS Gairsoppa was torpedoed by a German U-boat 70 years ago, it took its huge silver cargo to a watery grave. US divers are working to recover what may be the biggest shipwreck haul ever, valued at some \$210 million.

Florida-based Odyssey Marine Exploration on Monday confirmed the identity and location of the Gairsoppa, and cited official documents indicating the British ship was carrying some 219 tons of silver when it sank in 1941 in the North Atlantic some 300 miles (490 kilometers) off the Irish coast.

Valued then at 600,000 pounds, the silver today is worth about \$210 million, which would make it history's largest recovery of precious metals lost at sea, Odyssey said.

"We've accomplished the first phase of this project -- the location and identification of the target shipwreck -- and now we're hard at work planning for the recovery phase," Odyssey senior project manager Andrew Craig said in a statement.

"Given the orientation and condition of the shipwreck, we are extremely confident that our planned salvage operation will be well suited for the recovery of this silver cargo."

Recovery is expected to begin next spring.

After a competitive tender

process the British government awarded Odyssey an exclusive salvage contract for the cargo, and under the agreement Odyssey will retain 80 percent of the silver bullion salvaged from the wreck.

The 412-foot (125-meter) Gairsoppa had been sailing from India back to Britain in February 1941 bearing a cargo of silver, pig iron and tea, and was in a convoy of ships when a storm hit. Running low on fuel, the Gairsoppa broke off from the convoy and set a course for Galway, Ireland.

It never made it, succumbing to a German torpedo in the contested waters of the North Atlantic. Of the 85 people on board, only one survived.

The Gairsoppa came to rest nearly 15,400 feet (4,700 meters) below the surface, where for decades it was lost to the world. A previous effort to locate the shipwreck failed.

Odyssey found it relatively quickly, and insists the depth of the site won't prevent a full cargo recovery.

Odyssey is a world leader in deep-ocean exploration and has numerous shipwreck hunting projects in process around the globe.

In May 2007, it announced it had found half a million silver coins and hundreds of gold objects from a ship they code-named the "Black Swan," which went down in

1804 in the Atlantic off the Strait of Gibraltar. The find is being contested by Spain, which claims the trove.

In the latest operation, the firm recently conducted remotely operated vehicles from its main ship, the Odyssey Explorer, to inspect the Gairsoppa wreck. It acquired still and video imagery from the site which were used to confirm the identity and evaluate the condition of the ship.

Photographs released by the company show clear details of the Gairsoppa, including a ladder leading to the forecabin deck, a waist-high compass used by the helmsman, even the hole in the steel hull blown open by the torpedo.

The find highlights the influential role that modern technology has come to play in the business of finding shipwrecks, with vastly improved sonar equipment, global positioning systems and advanced deepwater robots that scour the world's oceans for booty.

UNESCO estimates there are some three million shipwrecks worldwide, with billions of dollars in sunken treasures and priceless knowledge that can be recovered from the depths of the ocean, including vast amounts of naturally occurring copper, silver, gold and zinc deposits waiting to be discovered



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Sharp unveils massive 80-inch LED LCD TV



Sharp yesterday unveiled its biggest LCD TV to date and what it claims is the "world's largest LED LCD TV." At 80 inches, the new Aquos LC-80LE632U is absolutely massive, dwarfing 55- and 60-inch televisions much like 46-inch TVs dwarfed traditional TVs a few years back. The unit is a natural step up from the 70-inch Aquos the company unveiled earlier this year.

"Our 80-inch AQUOS TV delivers more than double the screen area of a 55-inch TV, for an amazing viewing experience," said John Herrington, president, Sharp Electronics Marketing Company of America. "It's truly like nothing else on the market. Consumers want bigger

flat panel TVs for deeper, more immersive viewing experiences and that's exactly what Sharp's delivering here."

The new Aquos has a full suite of smart TV apps and features like Netflix, CinemaNow, Vudu, Amazon, Hulu, as well as built-in Wi-Fi. For gamers, it has "Vyper Drive," a mode that reduces lag between games and the 1080p 120Hz TV screen. It's about 3 inches thick and weighs about 130 lbs, light enough for two people to carry. But don't whip out the credit card just yet, because you may not have a high enough limit. The 80-inch Aquos will hit retail in "early October" for \$5,500.



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Health & Living

Hip break boosts death risk by five: US study

WASHINGTON, (AFP) - Women age 65 to 69 who break a hip face a five-times higher risk of dying within a year than their healthy counterparts, a bigger increase than in older women, said a US study on Monday.

Women 70-79 face double the risk of dying within a year if they break their hip compared to women who do not, and women 80 and older who break a hip face about the triple risk of dying, it said.

The study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and appears in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

"This study is a wake-up call that the first year after a hip fracture is a critical time for all elderly women, but especially for younger women, ages 65-69, who face a much higher death rate compared to

their peers," said lead author Erin LeBlanc.

The International Osteoporosis Foundation has said there are about 1.6 million hip fractures per year, with 51 percent occurring in Europe and the Americas and most of the remainder in the Western Pacific region and Southeast Asia.

About half of all women over age 50 will break a bone because of osteoporosis, according to the US-based National Osteoporosis Foundation.

The NIH-funded study was based on data from nearly 10,000 women in four US cities who enrolled from 1986-1988 in a research project to track osteoporotic bone fractures.

Over the course of 20 years, 1,116 of the women en-

rolled suffered hip fractures. Those women were matched by age to a comparison group of 4,464 women who did not break a hip.

Those figures suggest that the hip fracture itself plays a major role in the deterioration of a woman's health, according to co-author Teresa Hillier, senior investigator at the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research.

"We also found women are at the highest risk of dying within the first three months after hip fracture, which leads us to hypothesize that hospitalization, surgery and immobility lead to other complications that ultimately result in their death."

The top three causes of death for all women in the study were heart disease, cancer and stroke.

Bill Gates in Nigeria to boost anti-polio drive



Some polio victims

LAGOS, (AFP) - Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has arrived in Nigeria to take stock of a campaign to rid Africa's most populous nation of polio following a resurgence this year, his foundation said Tuesday.

Gates held talks with government officials and influential traditional leaders in Nigeria's worst-hit northwest-

ern region on Tuesday, his first of a three-day trip, Michal Fishman, spokeswoman for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, told AFP.

In 2009 and 2010, polio cases fell by 95 percent in Nigeria. The foundation said Nigeria's commitment to eradicate the crippling, but vaccine-preventable disease was at its peak during that period.

But in 2011, it said, "attention to polio waned" and the disease has now re-emerged as a serious threat to children's health, with 30 polio cases reported in six northern states.

However Gates was upbeat that Nigeria would win the war against the disease.

"Nigeria has achieved important success with polio

over recent years and we are confident it can finish the job," said Gates.

Nigeria is one of four countries -- including India, Pakistan and Afghanistan -- where polio transmission has never been stopped.

The UN has blamed the resurgence of polio in Nigeria on a drop in the number of vaccines while vaccination campaigns have also been met with resistance in parts of the country on suspicion the serum could be harmful to children.

The disease once crippled children worldwide and killed 350,000 children in 1988. That was the year that a global effort was kicked off to try to make the disease only the second after smallpox to be eradicated.

Teenage girl dies in Japan 'exorcism': reports



TOKYO, (AFP) - A 13-year-old girl suffocated after she was strapped down and doused with water by her father and a monk who were trying to expel an "evil spirit", Japanese police and media reports said Tuesday.

The two men, 56-year-old monk Kazuaki Kinoshita and the girl's 50-year-old father Atsushi Maishigi, were arrested on charges of inflicting injury resulting in the death of Tomomi Maishigi in Kumamoto in the country's south.

"The two are suspected of having conspired in what they

call 'waterfall service'... They allegedly strapped the victim to a chair with belts and doused her face with water," on the night of August 27, a local police spokesman said.

She was confirmed dead early the next day when her mother called an ambulance after the girl fell unconscious.

News reports said the two men poured water over her as an "exorcism" with the father holding the girl down while the monk chanted sutras.

Reports said the the girl's parents had turned to the monk after the youngster had suffered several years of mental and physical ill health that doctors had not been able to resolve.

Her parents had taken her to one of the group's facilities equipped with a water pump and made her go through the dousing practice about 100 times before, the broadcaster said.

The pump pulls water from underground and draws it to a height of 2.5 metres (eight feet), from where it falls on the person sitting below, TBS said.



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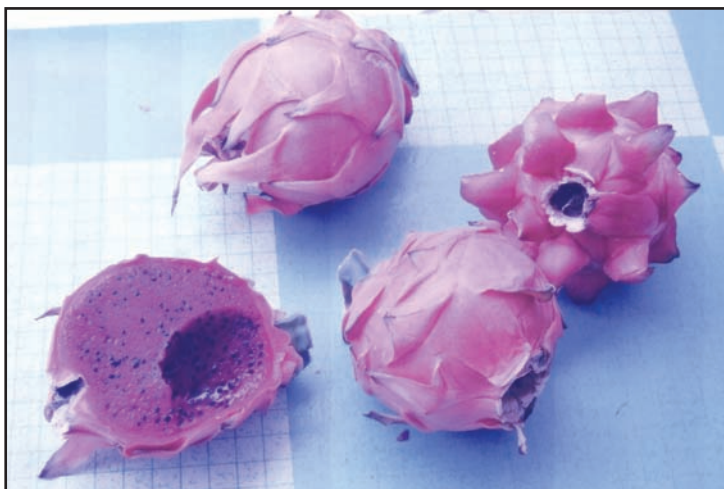
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Introducing the *Dragon Fruit* to Aruba



Do not let the name Dragon Fruit scare you or turn you off. Because, in truth, it is as beautiful as a rose, and is so good eating that in some countries it is called **The King of Fruits**.

It is believed by some people that this name originated in Southeast Asia because when it was introduced there

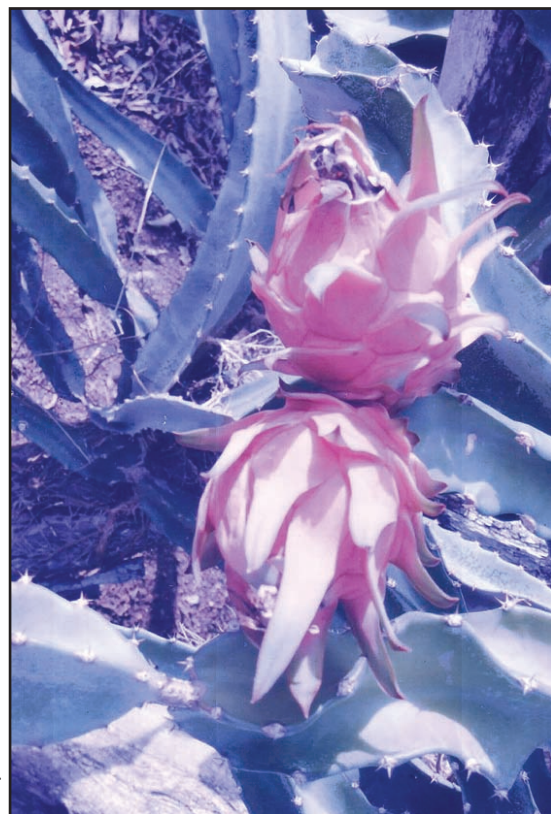
from South America, the well-to-do fell in love with it and prized it. They, therefore scared off the common folks by relating it to dragons. Others say the plant owes its name to its dragon-like traits: multi-branched, ferociously-spiked, strangling anything living or dead it gets attached to.

However, elsewhere, it has benign names: Pitaya in Venezuela; Pitahaya in Colombia; Indian Apple in the U.S. Its scientific name is *Cereus triangularis* of the family Cactacea (cactus). A cactus plant with a delicious fruit? Unbelievable. On Aruba we spurn cunucu cacti as they were a source of pain, not pleasure. And eating any part of them by us, apple-loving, peach-loving, apricot-loving people, would be belittling. Better leave it to the bird, bats, goats, and iguanas. But, you'd be surprised to learn that this fruit is now prized world-wide. For example, here's what an internet contributor in Malaysia wrote: "It is a gold-mine fruit..." And another: "My mom planted a dragon Fruit as part of her hobby,

and now it turned out to be a rewarding hobby by selling it to friends and neighbors." And another: "Yes, Dragon Fruit grows in Massachusetts. It is truly the king of fruits.

The Dragon Fruit plant is quite similar to our common climbing-type cacti. It is multi-branched, each branch made up of short segments off which other segments grow, total length as long as two meters. The plant is octopus-like. Each branch has three ridges which are heavily spiked. Four or five times a year spectacular large, lily-like flowers appear at night. The flowers look like maidens draped in long, velvet-like, seductive skirts. Better look quickly or not at all because within a few hours the skirts wither, turn black and fall off. Then the sepals at the base curl over the embryo providing shelter and protection as it matures. When fully mature, the fruit is perfectly round, about 8 cm, and looks like a flaming red rose. But without smell, as if "Made in China." In this virgin state it resists picking.

Once picked all one has to do is to peel off the sepals, slit the fruit in two, and drool over the tightly-packed, blood-red flesh. Scoop it out and eat – flesh and its many little black seeds. All that is



left in your hands is a little plastic-like bowl. Then, set the bowl aside for use later. Mix flesh with pureed mango and some sugar. Return mixture into skin and serve chilled and topped with whipped cream. Ah!

Note: The above fruit description applies to the red variety of Dragon Fruit (*Cereus traingularis*, specie *costaricensis*). The yellow variety (specie *megalanthus*) has yellow skin and white flesh, and is oval, smaller than the red, unattractive, but slightly sweeter. Both varieties are now growing well at Cunucu di Jimmy in Tanki Flip

Because Dragon Fruit is so much at home in Aruba should we not lay some claim to it and give it a name of our own? **Kadushi Bunita Diablo**, for example?

By Isaac Chin
In collaboration with James Ramos

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Deborah Helder sweeps the Crescendo Piano Competition for Youth 2011



The five finalists



Third place Willem ten Ham



Second place Emile Ponson



Deborah Helder most popular and first place winner



Jura Margulis, Tian Lu and Alan Weiss Judges

The 5th anniversary edition of the Aruba Piano Festival is now taking place in the Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad, with an international roster of world class musicians performing nightly through Saturday, October 1.

One of the highlights of the event is the showcase of promising young local talent during the Crescendo Piano Competition, which is the foundation of the event, conducted this past Monday evening. This year, ten dedicated young pianists, ranging in ages from 12 to 17 years old, competed during two rounds for the coveted trophy and the first prize of a full year of piano lessons with the maestro of their choice; this is donated annually by the Aruba Scholarship Foundation represented by President Clyde Harms.

After all competitors performed two mandatory pieces, an etude by Moszkowski and #17 from "Pieces for Children" by composer Bela Bartok, judges Allen Weiss, Jura Margulis and Tian Lu selected 5 finalists: Angelique Janssen,

Mandy Villasmil, Willem ten Ham, Emile Ponson and 13-year-old Deborah Helder. Other competitors included Max Hibbert, Kyle Winklaar, Jim de Weerd, Vanessa Chacon and Duco Brongersma.

Following the final round, the audience was invited to vote for the "People's Choice Award" and their favorite performer, who was young Deborah Helder. She flawlessly performed her electives, Chopin's Mazurka op.33 no. 4 and 11 Ecosseaises D.781 by Schubert with poise and maturity. She also proved a favorite of the jury, and took first place in the Crescendo 2011.

Second place went to veteran competitor Emile Ponson, performing Sonatina by Bartok and Rumores de la Caleta op.71 no.6 by Albeniz. Willem ten Ham won third place by performing Debussy's Arabesque no.1 and Sonata Hob XVI no 35 by Haydn.

Deborah will also receive an all-expense paid trip to Bonaire in November to perform a recital on our sister island through the auspices of the Classical Music Board of Bonaire.

Daily recitals by the visiting artists to the Aruba Piano Festival continue tonight with "An Evening with Schubert and Brahms," tomorrow will be a global tour of music with "Sounds of the World." Friday night will feature the great German composers, Bach, Mozart, Haydn, and Mendelssohn with noted local soprano Tica Giel. All formal concerts begin at 8:00 PM.

Featured guest performers include cellist Timothy Park, Nicaulis Alliey on flute, Mirjam Tschopp playing viola, guitarist Marlon Titre, violinists Ricardo Urbina and Alissa Margulis. Guest pianists are: Lucille Cheung, Harold Martina, Alan Weiss, Tian Lu, Javier Rameix, and Jura Margulis, who join featured performer and the festival's founder, Armand Simon of Aruba for the recitals.

The week will finish on Saturday, with a tribute to "one of the living legends of the Caribbean" the internationally applauded pianist and composer from Curacao, Wim Statius Muller, who will perform that night. Tickets for individual performances are 25 Aruban florins, (\$14 U.S.).

Tickets can be purchased at Plaza Bookshop in Dakota or at the Da Vinci Academy adjacent to the Cas di Cultura. For more information call 588-9926 or visit their website: <http://www.arubapianofestival.com>. Updates can be found on the Aruba Piano Festival Facebook page, where selecting the "like" button can win FB users free tickets to the concerts.

by Rosalie Klein

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ACROSS

1. Like a wet noodle
5. Yom Kippur observance
9. Congestive sounds
14. Indigo source
15. Italian wine town
16. Roman official
17. With a face only one's mother could love
18. React to a shock
19. Beta follower
20. K'n: abbr.
21. Bombing target of 12/7/41
23. Apart
25. George W.'s other brother
26. Took the wheel
29. Like the Mariana, among

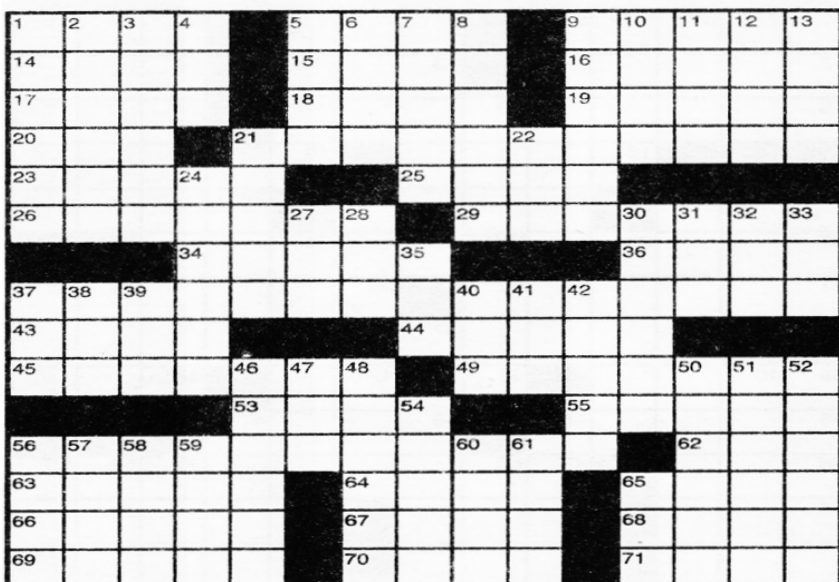
34. Racing form names
36. Tommie of the Miracle Mets
37. BBC miniseries, with "The"
43. Persian poet
44. Swashbuckling Flynn
45. "Happy Together" band, with "the"
49. Ladies of Spain
53. Yale grads
55. Worn
56. Baum's opulent metropolis
62. Mel of the Polo Grounds
63. Woody's role in "Sleeper"
64. Village elder's trope
65. Editor's "never mind"

66. Glowering
67. God born of Chaos
68. Parisian papa
69. Asocial person
70. What remote parkers hope to avoid
71. English composer Thomas

DOWN

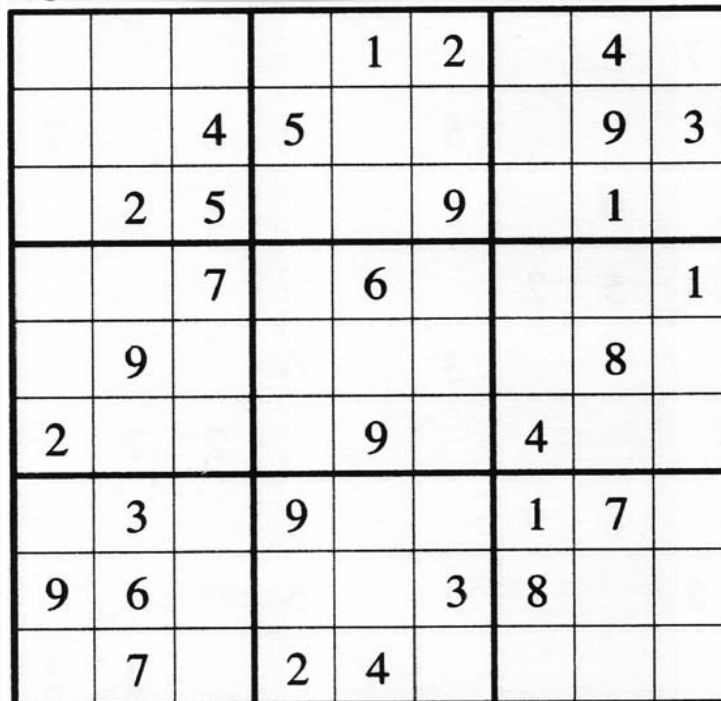
1. Dern and Nyro
2. Absorb into the body
3. "Thoroughly Modern"
4. Paper layer
5. Taxi pickup
6. On the main
7. Harsh
8. Cultivated
9. Entertain
10. It follows Shebat
11. Leg, e.g.
12. Admiral Zumwalt

13. Verb for Craig Claiborne
21. Word in many a pulp title
22. Be speedy
24. Leave high and dry
27. Silkworm
28. Snuggery
30. Entertaining room
31. Persona
32. Attend a bee
33. Taps time
35. Canonized Fr. woman
37. Write down hurriedly
38. Australian ratite
39. "The Milagro Beanfield"
40. Clock units: abbr.
41. Poet's "prior"
42. "A ___ Island of the Mind" (Ferlinghetti)
46. One with a new car every two years
47. Cloth measure
48. Edged up to
50. Bleacher creature
51. Toward the rear, on a yacht
52. Belle's perch
54. Group of twenty
56. "___ and the Detectives"
57. Spanish artist Joan
58. Zip
59. Nerve network
60. "The ___ Heel" (Jack London)
61. Put to the proof
65. Mineral springs locale



PRECIOUS

Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	9	8	7	2	1	4	5	3
5	8	1	9	3	6	8	7	2
2	1	9	5	6	8	7	4	3
4	5	7	1	6	8	9	3	2
9	8	5	7	2	1	4	6	3
1	2	6	5	9	8	7	4	3
8	1	9	6	7	5	2	4	3
5	6	2	1	8	5	7	4	3
3	7	4	2	1	9	6	8	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.

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Finance

Germany hits out at US as Greece vows action on debt



German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble.

BERLIN, (AFP) - Germany told the United States Tuesday to stop pointing the finger at Europe for its own economic ills while debt-hit Greece promised to do its utmost to avert a financial meltdown in the eurozone.

Europe's snowballing debt crisis had nothing to do with the United States, which would do better to focus on solving the very real problems of its own, said German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble.

His barbed comments were clearly aimed at US President Barack Obama who had warned a day earlier that Europe's failure to tackle crippling Greek debt was "scaring the world".

"It's always much easier to give advice to others than to

decide for yourself. I am well prepared to give advice to the US government," Schäuble said in an English-language address to the European School of Management and Technology in Berlin.

"Even if Obama is thinking the opposite, I don't think the problems of Europe are the reason for the problems of the US," he said.

Despite the sharp words, stocks rallied for a second day running with European shares up 4-6 percent and Wall Street up nearly three percent on belief that EU and world leaders are preparing a blockbuster response to the eurozone debt crisis, traders said.

Elsewhere in the German capital, Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou insisted that Athens was pulling out all the stops to resolve the crisis and prevent it from bringing down the euro project as a whole.

"I can guarantee that Greece will live up to all its commitments. I promise you we Greeks will soon fight our way back to growth and prosperity after this period of pain," Papandreou insisted, adding that pillorying Greece would not help matters.

Greece was making a "superhuman effort" to bring down its debt, Papandreou insisted.

Before a crunch working dinner with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Tuesday evening, Papandreou reiterated that Greece was determined to implement reforms "not only to overcome the present crisis, but to make Greece more competitive."

Merkel, for her part, said the crisis was not a crisis in the common currency itself, but in the huge debt piles amassed by eurozone members.

"We don't have a euro crisis, but a debt crisis," Merkel said.

Before going into the dinner Merkel said: "We want a strong Greece in the euro area.... Germany is ready to give all the help required" as Athens implements reforms.

Their working dinner amid increasing speculation that Greece could default, with the next instalment of debt aid due under its May 2010 bailout accord with the EU and IMF hanging fire as officials review the country's finances.

Athens says the aid payment, worth eight billion euros (\$11 billion), is essential to continue paying its bills.

Greek parliament approves controversial property tax

ATHENS, September 27, 2011 (AFP) - The Greek parliament approved a controversial property tax Tuesday that aims to plug a budget hole and help unlock bailout funds needed to prevent the country from defaulting.

The tax, which has sparked outrage as 70 percent of Greeks own their homes, was approved by a party line vote as more than a thousand people protested outside on the streets.

Greece, under pressure from its international creditors to plug a budget gap of more than 2.0 billion euros (\$2.7 billion), earlier this month an-

nounced the tax of up to 16 euros per square metre.

To help ensure collection, the tax is to be collected by power companies on their bills to clients, with electricity to be shut off for those who refuse to pay.

The finance ministry said this week that Greeks have 400 billion euros (\$548 billion) invested in property, roughly the size of the nation's sovereign debt which is more than 350 billion euros.

The long-term unemployed will be exempt from the tax, so long as their family income is less than 12,000 euros a year and the value of their property does not exceed

150,000 euros. The finance ministry has also said the tax would not apply to state offices, embassies, religious buildings, monasteries, non-profit organisations, charities and amateur sports clubs.

US stocks make solid gains for 2nd day

NEW YORK, September 27, 2011 (AFP) - US equities registered a second straight day of solid gains Tuesday as traders took more optimistic stock of the eurozone debt crisis.

After adding nearly three percent during the session, profit-taking set in and the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed up 146.83 points (1.33 percent) to 11,190.69.

The broader S&P 500 rose 12.43 (1.07 percent) to 1,175.38, while the Nasdaq Composite added 30.14 (1.20 percent) to 2,546.83.

"The Dow rose as many as 311 points by mid-afternoon as investors anticipated a more ambitious plan to contain the

European debt crisis," Samana said.

Shares of BlackBerry maker Research In Motion rose 4.5 percent to \$22.65 amid speculation that billionaire US investor Carl Icahn has taken a stake.

Embattled Hewlett-Packard added 3.9 percent to \$23.59 after an analyst at Bernstein Research labeled the company "the most inexpensive technology stock in the S&P 500."

Bank of America led losers in the Dow's 30 blue chips with a 1.8 percent loss after spending most of the session in positive territory.

The bond market fell. The 10-year Treasury bond yield

rose to 2.02 percent from 1.90 percent Monday, while the 30-year increased to 3.12 from 3.00.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	N	I	T	A	S	E	L	F	A	M
B	O	D	E	S	P	E	I	C	E	
C	R	O	S	S	F	I	R	E	R	O
	S	O	A	R		U	S	E	R	S
I	N	C		R	Y	A	N	E	D	N
Q	U	E	S	T		L	I	F	E	R
S	T	A	T	E	D		P	I	T	I
	S	I	D	E	S		N	O	L	T
C	H	E	F		S	A	R	I	L	E
H	O	F	F	A		C	A	S	H	
A	M	I		F	I	R	E	H	O	U
M	E	R		A	G	E		E	R	R
P	R	E		R	O	D		S	A	N

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Charlie Sheen strikes deal over TV show sacking

LOS ANGELES, (AFP) - Contrite actor Charlie Sheen has struck a deal with the makers of hit TV show "Two and a Half Men" to drop legal action over his sacking, studio Warners said Monday.

The terms of the out-of-court deal were not confirmed, but celebrity news website TMZ reported that he would get \$25 million almost immediately, and \$100 million in profits from syndication over the next seven years.

"Warner Bros. Television, Chuck Lorre and Charlie Sheen have resolved their dispute to the parties' mutual satisfaction," said a statement by Warner Bros Television.

"The pending lawsuit and



file photo-Two and a Half Men, Charlie Sheen

arbitration will be dismissed as to all parties. The parties have agreed to maintain confidentiality over the terms of the settlement," it added.

Sheen was fired from the show -- which has been a hit

since it was launched in 2003 and has been nominated for numerous awards -- after lashing its producer Chuck Lorre in a series of colorful interviews.

The actor, who has a long history of hard partying and scandal, became an Internet sensation as he appeared to be heading for a career meltdown, or "self-inflicted disintegration" as his former employees called it.

In recent weeks he has appeared contrite, notably using an appearance during the Emmys to wish the show's makers all the best, and even tweeting a photo of him making up with Ashton Kutcher, his successor on the show.

Mother of pearl shimmers at Armani show in Milan



MILAN, (AFP) - Giorgio Armani unveiled a new collection inspired by mother of pearl colours and the undulation of waves at Milan Fashion Week on Monday, reprising Versace's modern mermaids outfits. The spring/summer 2012 designs had a shimmering quality that turned the fashion show into a maritime scene on a silvery night with shoals of fish swimming past as models in sparkling, silvery dresses took to the runway. Armani said in a statement that the collection -- shown off at Armani's new minimalist headquarters in Milan -- reflected "the sheen of mother-of-pearl, the iridescence that transforms colours into watery reflections." The dresses -- many of them strapless and wavy like shells -- exuded "an utterly modern elegance, Armani said.



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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure

demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.



Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings.

The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a

shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival. Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website:

www.goldcoast-aruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the

Have you had your breakfast today? The Old Fisherman offers breakfast with an Aruban twist



Linda and Ramon Pimienta with their son Raymond, at right

When Linda and Ramon Pimienta started their small business at the old wharf down town, little did they know that they had a goldmine when it comes to the perfect blend of international and local cuisine. Nowadays, they are located right behind the Royal Plaza Mall where they serve up a storm to visitors and locals alike. What is their secret? Offering high quality dishes at super prizes that fit anyone's budget.

have been with the company for ten years are ready to serve you with a smile.

Besides serving traditional breakfast dishes such as eggs sunny side up with ham and cheese, scrambled or plain they also serve pastechi horna (a small pie pocket with different fillings), crêpes, sweet crêpes and bagels with cream cheese, smoked salmon or boiled eggs.

If you want to really experience the Aruban twist you might want to try something



For ten years The Old Fisherman has been serving local cuisine with an international twist for lunch and dinner and they have managed to stay on top by using high quality fresh ingredients. From their fish cakes with "funchi" (polenta) and "pan

from the local breakfast menu served on pan grandi (rama) or a baguette. You can try the delicious kerrie-kerrie (a typical Aruban flaked fish), conch, fish egg, shrimp, fish fillet, fish cake and the chicken soup or you can have fruit salad and yoghurt.



bati" nicely presented to soup of the day accompanied by delicious deserts.

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Whatever your taste might be you are assured that at the Old Fisherman there is a dish on the menu for you at breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Real overwhelm Ajax to take control of group



Cristiano Ronaldo (L) of Real Madrid celebrates with Sergio Ramos (C) and Mesut Ozil

PARIS, September 27, 2011 (AFP) - A last-minute equaliser by Ashley Young spared Manchester United from humiliation against FC Basel in the Champions League on Tuesday, as Manchester City were outclassed 2-0 by Bayern Munich.

Leading 2-0 at half-time at Old Trafford, United found themselves 3-2 down after some calamitous defensive lapses and were staring at a devastating loss until Young headed home Nani's cross in the 90th minute.

There seemed little danger at the interval as the hosts led through two goals by Danny Welbeck, both created by the evergreen Ryan Giggs.

The Swiss champions punished United in the second half, however, with Fabian Frei slamming home following a corner in the 58th minute before his fine cross set up Alexander Frei to equalise with a header two minutes later.

Panicking, United saw Antonio Valencia clumsily concede a penalty for a foul on Marco Streller and Alexander Frei stepped up to claim his second goal from the penalty spot.

Thorsten Fink's men were

minutes from an unforgettable upset, but United refused to accept defeat and equalised at the death when Young claimed his first goal in Europe's elite club competition.

The result left Basel level on points at the Group C summit with Benfica, who won 1-0 at Romanian competition debutants Otelul Galati, with United two points off the pace and without a win after two games.

City's visit to Bayern's Allianz Arena, which will host the final on May 19, was billed as their first major test in this season's competition and Roberto Mancini's side found themselves 2-0 down by half-time.

City goalkeeper Joe Hart could count himself unfortunate for both goals.

The second half told a similar story, with only Hart keeping the score respectable, while there were angry exchanges on the City bench after Carlos Tevez refused to come on as a substitute when instructed to do so by Mancini.

The City coach appeared stunned by Tevez's behaviour during a televised post-match interview, and in his subsequent press conference he

said: "He's finished with me, with me he's finished."


The other Group A game saw Napoli beat Villarreal 2-0 through goals from Marek Hamsik and Edinson Cavani to leave the Italian side second in the pool on four points, two points behind Bayern.

Real Madrid breezed past Ajax in Group D, comfortably winning 3-0 over a team against whom they netted six unanswered goals in the group phase of last season's competition.

Cristiano Ronaldo, Kaka and Karim Benzema were the goalscorers for Jose Mourinho's side, who lead the group by two points from Lyon after the French side overcame Dinamo Zagreb 2-0.

Claudio Ranieri's first Champions League assignment in charge of Inter Milan saw the 2010 champions win 3-2 at CSKA Moscow, with Mauro Zarate netting a 78th-minute winner after the hosts had hit back to level from 2-0 down.

Stunned 1-0 at home by Trabzonspor in their first game, Inter now sit a point behind the Turkish side in second place in Group B, after Lille were held to a 1-1 draw in Trabzon.



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Pietersen recalled for India tour

LONDON (AFP) - Kevin Pietersen was recalled on Tuesday to England's limited-overs squad for the trip to India next month.

England have five one-day matches against the world champions followed by a Twenty20 match, with the tour starting with the first of two warm-up fixtures on October 8.

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) confirmed that Pietersen has been included in the 15-man squad, which includes uncapped Surrey pace bowler Stuart Meaker, but bowler James Anderson has been rested.

Meaker, 22, was called up last week to try out with the squad in the nets and has done enough to impress the selectors.

"This squad contains an exciting balance of experienced international cricketers along with some very talented younger players who can play the high quality limited overs cricket needed to challenge India," said national selector Geoff Miller.

"We had a promising One-Day series win over India earlier this month and this squad will be looking forward to the challenge of continuing that success in the sub-continent over the next four weeks.

"The additions to the squad for the Twenty20 fixture will strengthen the squad and provide Jos Buttler and Alex Hales with valuable experience of playing in the sub-continent.

"Stuart Broad is currently undergoing a period of rehabilitation for a shoulder injury. However he will join the squad in India if he completes his rehabilitation programme ahead of schedule. Graeme Swann will once again lead the Twenty20 side if Stuart is unable to join the squad."

Surrey batsman Pietersen had been rested for the recent victorious home ODI series against India, the one-off clash with Ireland and the two Twenty20 fixtures against the West Indies.

Dodgers want to delay MLB push for sale

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Los Angeles Dodgers team attorneys asked a bankruptcy court on Tuesday to delay Major League Baseball's demand for a sale of the team until at least December as they seek television rights income.

In court filings viewed by the Los Angeles Times, lawyers said a scheduled October 12 hearing on the team's efforts to sell television rights to the Dodgers have provoked a "heavy-handed response" from major league officials.

Major League Baseball wants to force a sale of the team and argues that the team attorneys are representing the interests of owner Frank McCourt and not the Dodgers.

McCourt, embattled in a bitter divorce case, had a deal to settle the divorce case involving a TV rights deal.

However, Major League

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig nixed the plan, saying assets that belonged to the club were being wrongly diverted to solve McCourt's personal woes.

McCourt wants to retain ownership of the club but Selig has stepped in to make certain money that in most cases would be used for player salaries and other club benefits is not taken for other purposes, leaving the club in a long-term disadvantage position relative to its National League rivals.

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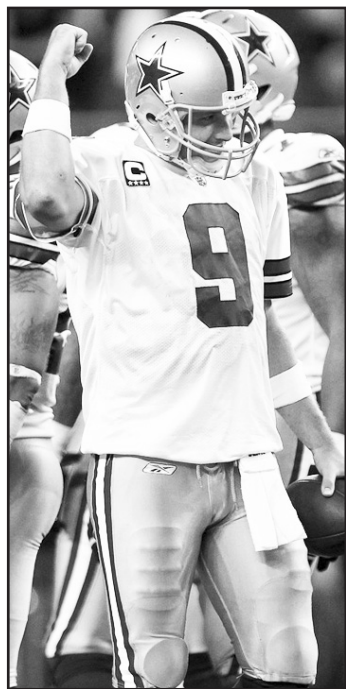


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Romo sparks Cowboys past Redskins



Tony Romo #9 of the Dallas Cowboys celebrates a 18-16 win against the Washington Redskins

ARLINGTON (AFP) - Tony Romo shrugged off a broken rib to move Dallas into position for six field goals by rookie kicker Dan Bailey as the Cowboys edged arch-rival Washington 18-16 in an NFL thriller on Monday.

Romo completed 22 of 36 passes for 255 yards while

Bailey matched an NFL rookie mark with a 6-for-6 kicking performance, the last of his field goals a 40-yarder with 1:47 remaining to produce the final margin.

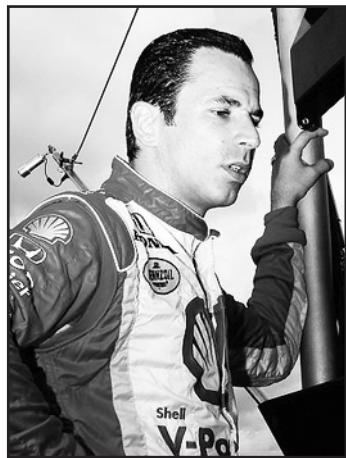
Washington quarterback Rex Grossman drove the Redskins upfield but was hit from behind by Anthony Spencer and fumbled the ball. Dallas linebacker Sean Lee recovered to end the final threat and delight 91,000 fans at Cowboys Stadium.

Dallas and Washington matched the New York Giants atop the NFC East division at 2-1. The Cowboys ensured they will not match 2010's miserable 1-7 start and kept the Redskins from joining unbeaten Buffalo, Detroit and Green Bay at 3-0.

Romo started at quarterback for the Cowboys despite suffering a broken rib and punctured lung three plays into a victory at San Francisco last week. The small hole in his lung has healed but pain from the rib fracture nagged Romo.

"It's a little hard because I took some shots," Romo said. "The guys battled hard. This is a great win for us. It was a hard game."

Castroneves fined for ripping official



INDIANAPOLIS (AFP) - Three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Helio Castroneves was fined \$30,000 and put on probation for the last three weeks of the IndyCar season on Tuesday for criticism of series officials.

Castroneves received the punishment for comments about chief steward Brian Barnhart after he was penalised at the end of the September 18 race in Japan for passing on an area of the course that was under caution

for a stalled car.

Instead of moving Castroneves back one position behind the car he passed, Barnhart pushed him behind every other driver on the same lap, dropping him from seventh place to 22nd.

Castroneves made his unhappiness known about the move and Barnhart in general in comments posted on Twitter and in a newspaper column in Brazil.

"It is sad to see one person being responsible for bringing down an entire series," Castroneves tweeted.

"Brian Barnhart is inconsistent and even changes the rule book when is convenient for him, and his own personal interests.

"Brian Barnhart is a circus clown!"

Castroneves will be allowed to make appearances for IndyCar in the next few weeks to work off the fine and can appeal the punishment.

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Miami's three stars reunite for charity game

MIAMI (AFP) - Miami Heat stars LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh will reunite for a charity game on October 8 in Miami for the first time since the Heat lost to Dallas in June's NBA Finals.

The event, set to be staged at Florida International University, is among a series of scrimmage games featuring top NBA talent that have been played around the United States while union leaders and club owners argue over money issues.

Team owners want to impose a hard salary cap on players and trim the players portion of revenues from 57 percent to less than half. Players want to avoid a firm salary cap and keep more of their share of \$3.8 billion in annual revenue.

NBA club owners locked out players on July 1, saying 22 of 30 league clubs lost money last season. Talks continued Tuesday but the pressure of possible lost regular-season games looms.

NBA owners have already wiped out 43 pre-season games and could soon cancel more contests ahead of the planned November 1 opener unless a new deal is reached.

Love likely would take Woods for Ryder Cup

MEDINAH (AFP) - US 2012 Ryder Cup captain Davis Love said he would probably do what 2011 Presidents Cup captain Fred Couples did and select a healthy Tiger Woods for his team even after a winless season.

One year before the start of the Ryder Cup at Medinah Country Club near Chicago, Love and European counterpart Jose Maria Olazabal of Spain spoke at the course about the event, where the Americans will try to reclaim the trophy.

Woods, a former World No. 1 now ranked 50th, has not won since November of 2009, just before his infamous sex scandal began. He spent much of this season nursing knee and Achilles tendon injuries suffered at the Masters.

But Woods was selected well in advance of Tuesday's

announcements as a pick for the US Presidents Cup team by Couples, saying he wanted Woods on the squad. Love is ready to play it the same way, although he might not say so in advance.

"You certainly want one of the best players ever in the game. You want him on your team," Love said. "I'm hoping, as a friend, for Tiger's sake, that he has a full, healthy season next year and we are not in this situation, that he's back to his form, and he's ready to go."

"I would love to play as Tiger Woods' partner in a Presidents Cup or Ryder Cup, so I would probably have to go with exactly what Fred did."

Olazabal will guide the Europeans in the first Ryder Cup since the death of Seve Ballesteros, his long-time Ryder Cup partner. The Spanish duo went 11-2-2 as a Ryder Cup pairing and Olazabal evoked Ballesteros in



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Braves stumble but stay ahead of Cardinals

ATLANTA (AFP) - The Atlanta Braves remained one game ahead of the St. Louis Cardinals in the fight for the final National League playoff berth after each club lost a Major League Baseball game on Monday.

Raul Ibanez singled in the deciding runs in the sixth and eighth innings to give Philadelphia a 4-2 victory over Atlanta, which fell to

89-71, while the Cardinals, 88-72, dropped a 5-4 decision at Houston in 10 innings.

Philadelphia, Arizona and Milwaukee have secured National League playoff positions by clinching division titles.

The other NL berth goes to the best second-place team, either Atlanta or St. Louis. Each has two more

games against their Monday foes, with the Phillies owning the best record in the major leagues and the Astros having the worst.

If the Cardinals and Braves finish the season with the same record, St. Louis would host a one-game playoff for the post-season berth on Thursday because the Cardinals went 5-1 against the Braves in the regular season.

Red Sox finish record fall as Rays pull level

BALTIMORE (AFP) - The Boston Red Sox completed the record collapse in a Major League Baseball playoff race on Monday, allowing the Tampa Bay Rays to match them in a fight for an American League wild-card spot.

The Red Sox lost 6-3 at Baltimore while the Rays defeating the visiting New York Yankees 5-2, leaving both clubs at 89-71 with two games remaining against their same foes to conclude the six-month season.

Boston owned a nine-game edge over Tampa Bay on the morning of September 4 and carried a one-game lead into Monday before they finished squandering the biggest blown lead in September by any team battling to make the playoffs.

Detroit, Texas and the Yankees have already clinched American League playoff berths by securing division titles, with the winningest second-placed team also able to book a wild-card berth.

White Sox part with manager Guillen

CHICAGO (AFP) - Chicago White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen has been released from his Major League Baseball contract with two days remaining in the season, the team announced on Monday after a 4-3 victory over Toronto.

And the Florida Marlins, who last year spoke with the White Sox about obtaining Guillen, announced that they will have a managerial vacancy with 80-year-old Jack McKeon saying he will retire at the end of the season.

The White Sox said they retain the right to be compensated if Guillen accepts a managerial job with any other major league club for the 2012 campaign.

Guillen, who had one year remaining on his contract, met White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf earlier Monday and said he wanted to return but only for a contract extension with a pay hike.

"We certainly cannot thank Ozzie enough for all he has done during his eight seasons as manager of the Chicago White Sox, highlighted by an unforgettable 2005 World Series championship," Reinsdorf said in a statement.

Guillen, guided the White Sox to a 678-617 during his stint with the club.

"No regrets, but a lot of disappointment," Guillen said. "I will continue in the game. I don't know how."

MLB Standings

National League

East				
Y-PHILADELPHIA	100	60	.625	--
ATLANTA	89	71	.556	11.0
WASHINGTON	79	80	.497	20.5
NY METS	76	84	.475	24.0
FLORIDA	71	89	.444	29.0
Central				
Y-MILWAUKEE	94	66	.588	--
ST. LOUIS	88	72	.550	6.0
CINCINNATI	78	82	.487	16.0
PITTSBURG	72	88	.450	22.0
CHICAGO	70	90	.438	24.0
HOUSTON	56	104	.350	38.0
West				
Y-ARIZONA	93	67	.581	--
SAN FRANCISCO	85	75	.531	8.0
LA DODGERS	81	78	.509	11.5
COLORADO	72	88	.450	21.0
SAN DIEGO	70	90	.438	23.0

American League

East				
Y-NY YANKEES	97	63	.606	--
TAMPA	89	71	.556	8.0
BOSTON	89	71	.556	8.0
TORONTO	80	80	.500	17.0
BALTIMORE	68	92	.425	29.0
Central				
Y - DETROIT	93	67	.581	--
CLEVELAND	80	80	.500	13.0
CHICAGO	78	82	.487	15.0
KANSAS	71	89	.444	22.0
MINNESOTA	61	99	.381	32.0
West				
Y-TEXAS	94	66	.588	--
LA ANGELES	86	74	.537	8.0
OAKLAND	72	88	.450	22.0
SEATTLE	67	93	.419	27.0

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